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HONDURAS.

Report from Puerto Cortez, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Carter reports as follows: Week ended September 13, 1904. Present officially estimated population, 2,125; no deaths; prevailing diseases, malarial fever of mild type and intestinal diseases; general sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Vessel.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
Sept. 7	Osceola ^a	29	0	0	0
8	Beverly	44	18	4	0
9	Bratten	14	0	0	0
10	Espana	14	0	3	0
12	Helen	20	3	0	0

^a For Boston.

Number of aliens from this port during week, 11.

INDIA.

Reports from Bombay—Cholera, plague, and smallpox—Mortality.

Acting Asst. Surg. Edward H. Hume reports, August 20, as follows:

Mortality of Bombay, week ended August 16, 1904.

	Present week.	Same week last year.
Plague attacks	49
Plague deaths	44	77
Plague mortality per 1,000	2.94	5.15
Smallpox deaths	1	3
Cholera deaths	33	0
Total deaths	662	559
Total mortality per 1,000	44.36	37.45

The health department issues the following bulletin regarding cholera:

Cholera was not epidemic, the attacks reported being 38, including 17 contact cases. Out of these 3 were imported and the rest local. There were 33 deaths, including 12 contact deaths. Out of these deaths, 3 were imported, 1 from Kolhapur and 2 from Poona. The disease, it appears, does not show a tendency to increase, and is attributed to seasonal variations and to importations and contacts, hence it is sporadic. The disease is not confined to any particular quarter of the town. It is chiefly prevalent among the poor class of the population, and it has no direct local connection with the harbor.

The distribution of cholera during the week, by races and castes, was as follows:

Hindus, middle castes	21
Hindus, low castes	5
Musselmen	4
Parsis	1
Native Christians	2
Total	33

Of the 33 deaths 11 occurred in the northernmost ward of the city, i. e., the one first approached in coming to Bombay from the mainland. This suggests that cases are being stopped there, for the record for the lower end of the city shows that but few cases have occurred there.

The health officer says:

The report calls for no particular remarks beyond noting the steady decline in the mortality and the increase in the births registered as compared with corresponding quarters since 1897.

Exclusive of 460 stillborn, 10,970 deaths were registered during the quarter, as compared with 15,549 in the corresponding quarter of last year (equal to an annual death rate of 56.54 per 1,000), being 3,899 less than in the previous quarter.

From plague 4,352 deaths were registered, being 3,172 less than in the last quarter and 3,623 less than in the corresponding period of last year.

The mortality from fevers was 512, or 165 less than in the last quarter and 66 less than in the corresponding period of last year. Of these deaths, 500 were due to malarial fever and 12 to enteric fever.

The mortality from cholera is 3 more than in the last quarter and 1 more than in the corresponding quarter of last year. Of 5 cases, 4 proved fatal.

There were 229 deaths from smallpox, being 69 more than in the last quarter, but 463 less than in the corresponding quarter of last year.

The rate of mortality among the chief races living in the city is shown in the following table of the annual rate of mortality per 1,000 of population according to the census of 1901:

Hindus, including Brahmans, Jains, Bhatias, and Lingayats	60.23
Hindus, low caste	56.83
Musselmans	59.40
Parsees	28.11
Europeans	15.64

The infant mortality is 3 less than in the last quarter and 604 less than in the corresponding period of last year. There were 2,902 deaths among children under 5 years of age, viz:

	Number of deaths.
Under 1 year	2,094
1 to 2 years	430
2 to 3 years	180
3 to 4 years	101
4 to 5 years	97

During the quarter the actual number of new cases (individuals) treated at the municipal dispensaries was 12,027 males and 7,032 females. The total number of attendances was 78,315, of whom 336 were seen at the patients' houses.

During the quarter 17,062 visits were made to houses by the nurses working under the district registrars, and they inquired into 902 cases of ordinary sickness, 580 cases of infectious diseases, 902 deaths among females, attended 101 confinements, and ascertained 1,193 births.

Suggestions relative to a settled and continuous policy against plague.

PLAGUE AND ITS PREVENTION.

(Recommendations of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce to the government of Bombay.)

In February, 1898, the Bombay Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution emphasizing the efficacy of inoculation and the failure of all other measures against plague. The resolution was sent to government, and the latter, in its reply, stated that—

While still regarding inoculation as in its experimental stage and insisting that the adoption of it by the people must be absolutely voluntary, the results so far attained were considered by them to be encouraging, and that every facility was and would continue to be offered.

The committee of the Chamber of Commerce accepted the statement of government that inoculation must still (1898) be regarded as experimental; but they have natu-